

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1951.

1. STATISTICS.

Area	1365 acres.
Registrar-General's Estimate of resident population	2575.
Population - 1951 Census	2592.
Number of inhabited houses.	915.
Rateable value at 1st April, 1951.	£14,525.
Sum represented by a penny rate	
	1951/52. £58. 14. 2.

2. VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1951.

	Total	Male	Female.
Live Births - Legitimate	40	24	16
Illegitimate	1	1	-
Still Births - Legitimate	1	1	-
Illegitimate	1	-	1
Deaths of infants - Legitimate under 1 year old.	1	1	-
Illegitimate	1	1	-
Deaths of infants - Legitimate under 4 weeks.	-	-	-
Illegitimate	1	1	-
Corrected Birth-rate per 1,000 civilian population			19.26
	Total	Male	Female
Deaths	63	38	25
Corrected death rate per 1000 civilian population	17.89		
Infantile Mortality Rate per 1000 live births	35.6		
The corresponding figures for England & Wales are			
Death Rate	12.5		
Birth Rate	15.5		
Infantile Mortality Rate	29.6		

Causes of Death as recorded by the Registrar-General.

Malignant Neoplasms	4
Vascular Lesions of Nervous system	7
Coronary disease & Angina	6
Other diseases of the heart	18
Other circulatory disease	4
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	1
Bronchitis	8
Influenza & Pneumonia	6
Congenital Malformation	1
Other defined diseases	7
Accident	1

One old lady lived to celebrate her 100 th birthday and as usual more than half reached the age of 70.

Infectious Diseases.

One case of Pulmonary Tuberculosis was notified by the County Tuberculosis Officer.

Many mild cases of Mumps (70) and German Measles (50) were reported by the Primary Schools.

Diphtheria Immunisation is carried out at the Welfare Centre, at the Schools and by the local practitioners.

Parents are most co-operative and it is doubtful if any children escape immunisation.

Housing.

Two flats for old people have been erected on the vacant site at Church Street.

Improvements have been carried out on some of the Buckfast houses.

The Council have plans for the erection of 8 flats on the Glebelands Estate and 4 houses on a site at Buckfast at present derelict, and it is hoped that these will be built and occupied during 1952.

I continue to urge my Council to build flats for old people as I found in my last survey that considerable (14%) under-occupation of the 3 bedroomed houses exists.

Drainage and Sewerage.

The improvements noted last year have been continued and the present staff are to be congratulated on the results obtained. There has been no pollution of the River Dart.

Water Supply.

The Water Engineer engaged last year has produced plans for the augmentation of the existing supply which it is hoped will obtain Ministerial approval.

The quality of the water is excellent and its tendency to plumbo-solvency is corrected at the reservoir.

Five analyses were taken during the year.

All houses except a few outlying farms and cottages have a piped supply.

S.R. WILLIAMS,

Medical Officer of Health.

